

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claim 4 was objected to and has been amended to address the item raised by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Weatherly. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites "the phase delay control trace configured to shift the phase of compensating crosstalk." Weatherly fails to teach this feature. In applying Weatherly, the Examiner notes that Weatherly teaches two redundant traces 5 and 6 in Figure 3-1. Weatherly, however, does not teach or suggest that these traces are configured to shift the phase of compensating crosstalk. Traces 5 and 6 are configured to overlap loop 28 on the opposite side of the printed circuit board to capacitively couple traces (column 5, lines 17-29). There is no mention of adjusting phase in Weatherly.

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Weatherly. Claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-13 variously depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Weatherly for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1. Claim 14 recites similar features as claim 1 and is patentable over Weatherly at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1.

Further, with respect to claim 2, Weatherly does not teach that the signal trace and phase control trace are the same trace. The Examiner submits that trace 6 is a structural part of trace 5. Applicants respectfully disagree and note that traces 5 and 6 are separate elements. Thus, Weatherly does not teach that "said phase delay control trace and said signal carrying trace are the same, single trace."

Further, with respect to claim 3, this claim has been amended to clarify that the material used for the phase delay control trace has a different conductivity. This feature is discussed in paragraph [0032] of Applicants' specification. Weatherly does not teach this feature.

Further, with respect to claim 4, Weatherly does not teach multiple, redundant phase control traces. Weatherly teaches a signal trace 5 and a redundant trace 6. Even assuming,

arguendo, that trace 6 is a phase control trace, there is only one phase control trace, not multiple phase control traces as recited in claim 4.

Claims 1-3, 5 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Winings. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites "the phase delay control trace configured to shift the phase of compensating crosstalk." Winings fails to teach this feature. In applying Winings, the Examiner notes that Winings teaches a widened trace as shown in Figure 6B. Winings, however, does not teach or suggest that this widened trace is configured to shift the phase of compensating crosstalk. The widened trace is designed to overlap a conductor on an adjacent layer of the board (column 6, lines 34-43). There is no mention of adjusting phase in Winings.

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Winings. Claims 2-3, 5 and 13 variously depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Winings for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1.

Further, with respect to claim 3, this claim has been amended to clarify that the material used for the phase delay control trace has a different conductivity. This feature is discussed in paragraph [0032] of Applicants' specification. Winings does not teach this feature.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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